Occupation of Ancient Monuments

3349. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of ancient monuments have been forcibly occupied in the Capital for religious purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any responsibility fixed in these cases of forcible occupations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Some of the centrally protected monuments have been occupied for religious purposes as per the details given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) F.I.R.s have been lodged with the police. The help of law enforcing agencies has been sought to clear the monuments of illegal occupation.

Statement

1.	Mosque at Safdarjung Tomb	:	Religious congregation is organised for Friday Prayers for a temporary period after occupying the mosque forcibly.
2.	Khairul Manazil Mosque	:	Namaz is offered on every Friday during the day time when the mosque is opened to public.
3.	Mosque at Firoz Shah Kotla	:	The mosque at Firoz Shah Kotla is forcibly occupied for a temporary period every night during the month of Ramzan for offering of Namaz. Namaz is also offered regularly every Friday.
4.	Mosque at Sarai Shahji	:	The mosque at Sarai Shahji has been forcibly occupied for running a religious school. Namaz is offered every Friday and during Ramzan as well.
5.	Qudsia Mosque	:	This mosque has been forcibly occupied by a self styled Imam on the pretext of religious activity. The Imam is residing inside the monument.
6.	Sunehri Masjid	:	Namaz is offered daily. Imam is residing permanently inside the monument.
7.	Nili Masjid	:	Namaz is offered only on Fridays during day-time when it is opened for visitors.
8.	Mosque at Afsarwala, Humayun's Tomb	:	-do-
9.	Purana Qila	:	An area has been encroached upon by a temple and Archaeological Survey of India has filed eviction suit and the matter is sub-judice.
10.	Razia Sultan Tomb near Turkman Gate	:	Occupid by a Moulvi for religious activities.
11.	Gandhak-ki-Baoli Graves	:	Encroached upon by a Moulvi for religious purposes.

Agreement between India and Canada

3350. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Canada have recently agreed to establish a working group to combat terrorism and take necessary steps for the expansion and diversification of bilateral cooperation in different fields; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the agreement as well as the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During Canadian Foreign Ministr, Lloyd Axworthy's visit to India in January, 1997, it had been agreed to intensify cooperation between the two Governments to combat terrorism for this purpose.

It was also agreed to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee for intensification of cooperation and consultations between India and Canada in the political as well as in the economic and commercial fields.

The first meetings of both these bodies are expected to take place in the course of this year.

Development of Rural Sports Stadiums

3351. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any schemes for the development of rural sports stadiums; and